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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5611th meeting of the Security Council, held on 22 December 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Somalia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council *expresses* its deep concern over the continued violence inside Somalia, in particular the recent intensified fighting between the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) and the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs).

"The Security Council *calls upon* all parties to draw back from conflict, recommit to dialogue, immediately implement resolution 1725 (2006) and refrain from any actions that could provoke or perpetuate violence and violations of human rights, contribute to unnecessary tension and mistrust, endanger the ceasefire and political process or further damage the humanitarian situation.

"The Security Council *reaffirms* its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia.

"The Security Council *reaffirms* its commitment to a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the situation in Somalia through the Transitional Federal Charter, stressing the importance of broad-based and representative institutions and of an inclusive political process, as envisaged in the Transitional Federal Charter.

"The Security Council *reiterates* that the Transitional Federal Charter and Institutions offer the only route to achieving peace and stability in Somalia, and *emphasizes* the need for continued credible dialogue between the Transitional Federal Institutions and the UIC. The Council therefore *urges* the Transitional Federal Institutions and the UIC to fulfil commitments they have made, resume without delay peace talks on the basis of the agreements reached in Khartoum, and adhere to agreements reached in their dialogue and establish a stable security situation inside Somalia. The Security Council *welcomes* all regional and international efforts to promote and encourage political dialogue between the Transitional Federal Institutions and the UIC and expresses its full support for these initiatives."

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